

Nepeta and Furends

Nepzine 2020



SACCHARINE DISPOSITZINE A.K.A. NEPZINE

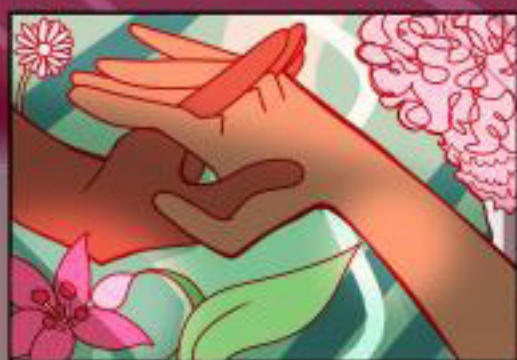
SECTION 3 - NEPETA AND FURENDS

**CONTENT WARNINGS: FLOWERS,
FOOD, SHARP OBJECTS (CLAWS)**

**ALL ARTISTS ARE FROM TWITTER
ARTISTS (IN ORDER):**

COVER ARTIST: LEAFINGAROUND

- 1. GLITRADORAS**
- 2. SNOWWRITERTYPE**
- 3. SOFWTARES**
- 4. SEPTFIRST09**
- 5. FEFAIRYS**
- 6. KLEPTOKANDI**
- 7. GILLIANSDEAD**
- 8. CEOOFLAMP**
- 9. UNTHRAINE**
- 10. SOFTIEZO**
- 11. GRANDIOSFORJURY**
- 12. LEAFINGAROUND**
- 13. LUCASMIIS**
- 14. BOSSYFANGS**
- 15. MOIRAILE**
- 16. MAGICALMELODYS** (underscore in between "magical"
and "melodys")
- 17. PEDACINDETORTA**
- 18. PATCHWYRKK**
- 19. THISISAFILLER27**
- 20. BERRYBLITZED**
- 21. MLMHANNIBAL / DELTRITUS**
- 22. PEKOCORE/RIVERTHEGHOST**
- 23. SALINESALTS**
- 24. MELONSHARKS**
- 25. KARKALICIOUS699**
- 26. XASANNNNI**
- 27. TENBYTABS**
- 28. TOADBAIT**
- 29. NIGHTLYIMPALA**



Nepeta was snuggled up to Pounce, trying not to disturb her too much. Pounce was sleeping, so she shouldn't raise her voice, but everything just seemed so unfair right now.

"It's just not fair! He always does this, he always says I can't play! I want to be able to join in with everything. You do! Why is that any different?"

"Um..." Tavros' hesitant voice came through her headset, quiet and placating. "I'm not his moirail."

"Meowrail."

"Meow...rail. He doesn't want, uh, anything bad to happen. Vriska doesn't exactly play fair."

That was true, at least, and made Nepeta hesitate as well for a second. She did really, really want to play games with Terezi, especially when their roleplay was so fun, but any game that had Terezi in it would probably have Vriska in it too. And Terezi could be mean if she was around Vriska.

"He can't stop me," she said, defiantly.

"I wouldn't, um, want you to play games with Vriska," Tavros said, perhaps even quieter than before. "She really isn't nice, and she doesn't care if she hurts people. I, uh, wouldn't want you to be hurt."

Tavros had a point. Nepeta snuggled back into her lusus, trying not to feel unhappy over things. It wasn't that she didn't understand that the games were dangerous, even for a huntress. It wasn't that she didn't want to reassure Equius. It was just that everyone else could play, and she couldn't, not without upsetting her diamond. Even if he was overreacting, she didn't want to try and prove him wrong in case he was right, and she upset him.

"Why do you play with her, then?" she asked. "If she's so mean?"

"I, um, enjoy the game. She's been acting meaner and meaner recently, and uh, even if Kanaya talks to her, she's never nice to me. But I really like the game."

"Maybe...you and me could play a game. Equihiss couldn't disagree with that!"

"Maybe. Maybe we can play Fiduspawn or something." Tavros sighed. "I, um, think he still wouldn't like that very much. Because you know, I'm..."

The words hung silent in the air. Because Tavros was a lowblood, and Equius wouldn't like it. Because he wanted Nepeta to act properly, and behave herself. Even if that meant curbing her own enjoyment and feeling lonely.

She sighed. On the other hand, she couldn't exactly go around upsetting her moirail just for her own happiness. That would make her a bad moirail for him.

"Did...did you have fun last time you played?"

“Yeah, I, uh, got some pretty sweet loot, and Aradia really enjoyed it too. We’re such a sweet team!”

“Go Team Charge!” Nepeta cheered, trying to sound happier than she actually was.

“Yeah, Team Scourge aren’t going to, um, win against us. Vriska wants us to fight against each other, though. And, um, prove it.”

A shiver went down Nepeta’s spine. Had it suddenly gotten colder? Or had Pounce moved?

“That sounds...fun? AC thinks you’re going to teach her a lesson about messing with your team.”

“Um, AT thinks that sounds, uh, like what will definitely happen.” Tavros seemed shy as he continued to speak. “And um, maybe if AT wins, AC could join playing, because CT will see that it’s not that dangerous.”

Nepeta sat bolt upright, unable to stop the smile that spread across her face at the thought.

“You really think so? You really think that he’d do that?”

Tavros hesitated again. “I don’t, um, know for sure, but maybe if we beat Vriska, he’d let you join. It’s dangerous, but maybe if we win he’d see it’s not that dangerous. I’m going to try my best anyway, so maybe you guys could talk about it?”

Nepeta squealed, and the mic peaked slightly.

“Tavros! AC wants to squeeze you really, really tight if this is fur real! AC climbs into your lap and starts purring loudly!”

“Um, that would probably make me sneeze, but okay.” Tavros sounded like he was smiling, and Nepeta wished for a moment that she could hug him. Even if Vriska was mean, Tavros was always so nice. With Terezi and Tavros both playing, Equius couldn’t have any objection. She was sure of it.

“I’ll definitely talk with him! He can’t really mind if you guys win, I’m sure! I so want to play with you guys!”

“Well, I, um, don’t want you to get hurt, but I do want to play a game with you. Because we’re friends. So I’ll try my best to prove to Equius that games aren’t too dangerous for you.”

Nepeta squealed again. “Thank you, thank you, thank you! Tavros, this is going to be the best! I can’t wait to play together with Terezi and you and everyone! It’s going to be so much fun!”

“Um, only if he’s okay with it and we win, though.” Tavros sounded a little scared – had she been too loud? She looked at Pounce, seeing her lusus open one eye sleepily.

“Oh.” She stopped bouncing. “I...guess that would be kind of counting grubs before they hatch...”

“Yeah...” Tavros cleared his throat. “But a chance is better than nothing, and Team Charge is going to do its best, I promise.”

She smiled to herself, a tiny, nervous little smile. “Thanks, Tavros. You’re the purrfect person to talk to about this.”

“Really?” Tavros sounded cheerful again. “Thanks, Nepeta. That, um, actually means a lot.”

“Really.” Nepeta smiled. “It’s nice to be able to talk to someone purr-operly about it.”

She really did like Tavros. You could talk to him about anything, and he was so nice. Even if everyone else thought he was a bit of a pushover, or thought he needed looking after, Nepeta just liked how nice he was and how easy it was to talk to him. Maybe somebody would recognise that someday and his quadrants would reflect it, and she could update her shipping wall.

As long as it wasn’t caliginous. That would be a disaster. Right?

“Nepeta? Are you there?”

“Yes!” She snapped out of it. “Sorry, Tavros. I was just thinking I should go out hunting before it’s too late for me to catch anything for Pounce.”

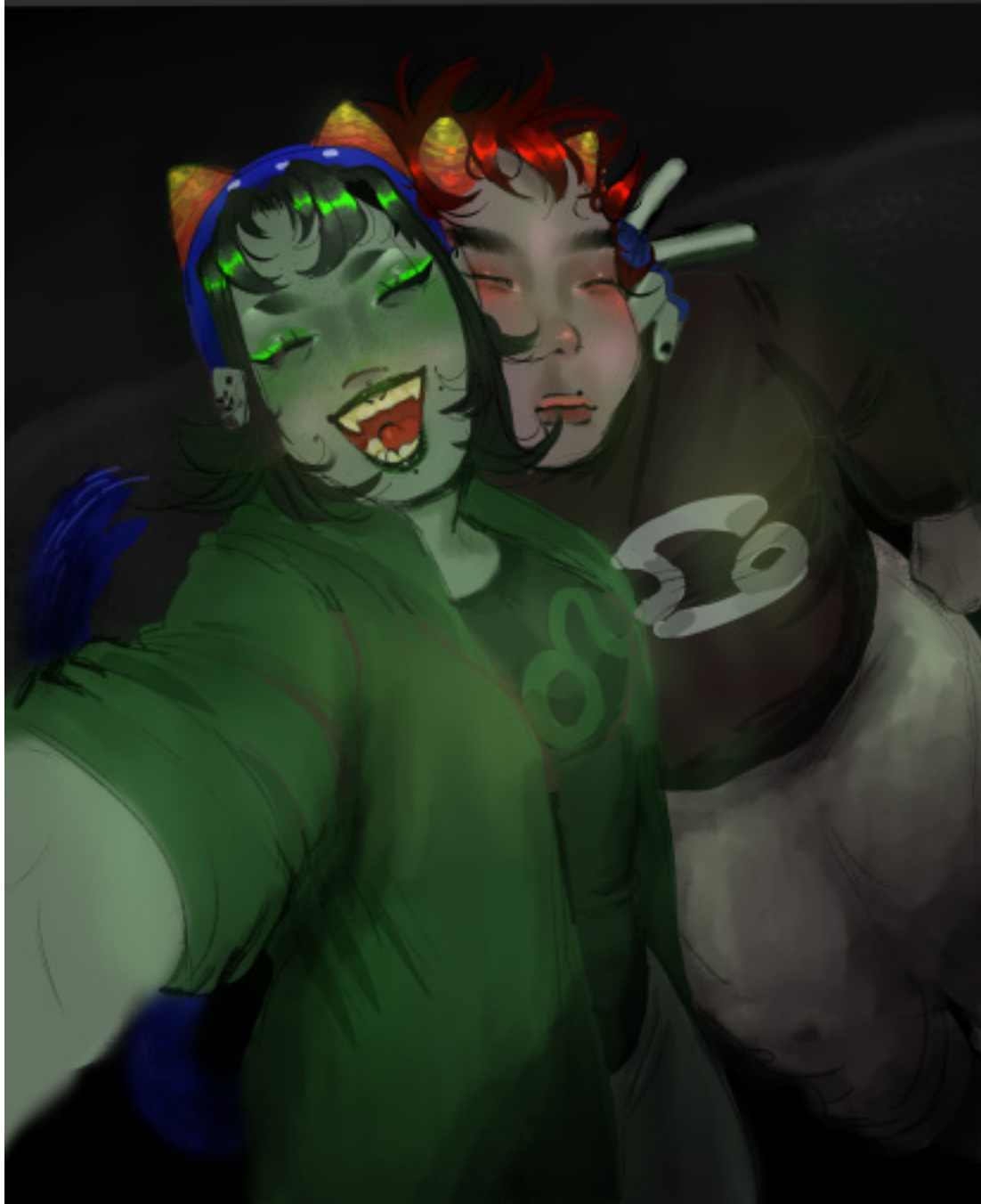
“Oh, yeah. Um, see you later.”

“Hopefully with news of Team Charge’s victory!” she said, smiling, before disconnecting and moving her husktop to the side. She’d check in with him later. Right now, she had real hunting to do.

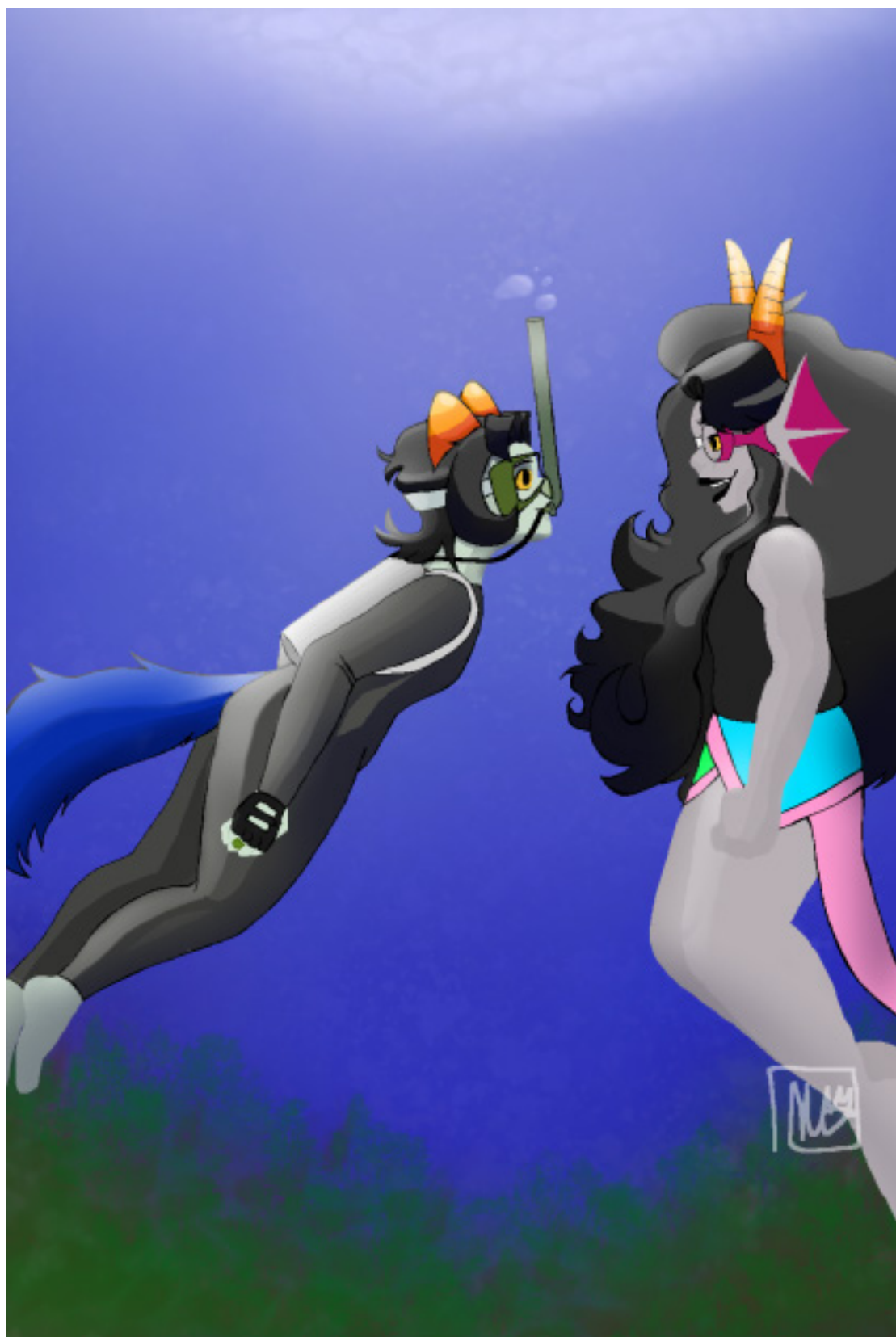




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UNTHRAINE











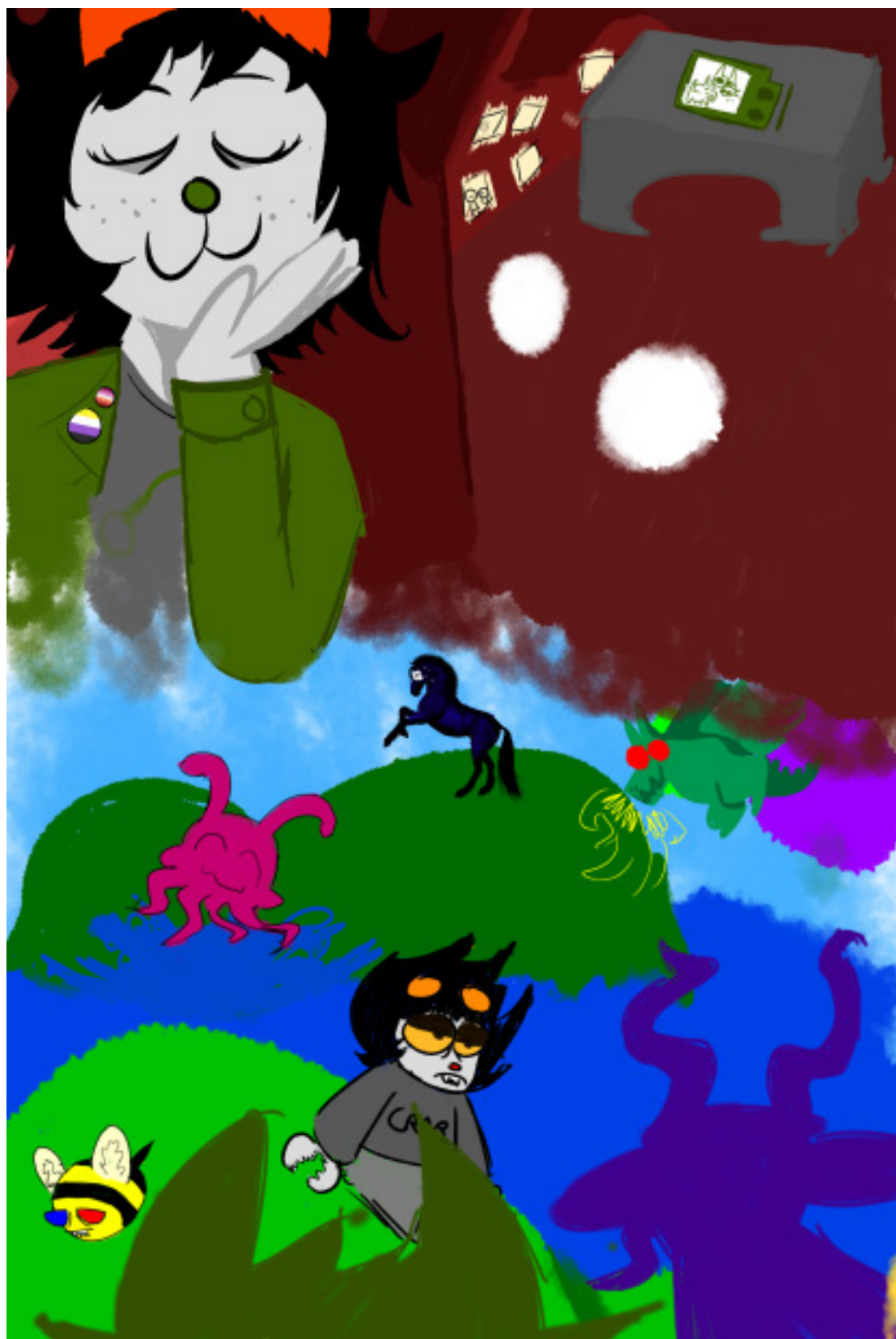








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